

**Early emergence of Currant Pug *Eupithecia assimilata* Doubleday  
(Lep.: Geometridae)**

A single male *Eupithecia assimilata* was caught in the Rothamsted Insect Survey (RIS) light-trap at Lanhydrock, Cornwall (Site No. 550, O.S. grid reference SX 099636) on 9 March 1999. First generation adults of this normally bivoltine species usually appear in May and peak during the first week of June (Riley, A.M. & Prior, G., *in press*, *British and Irish Pug Moths*. Harley Books, Colchester). This individual has, therefore, emerged two months prematurely.

Thanks are extended to the National Trust staff for operating the trap at Lanhydrock.—ADRIAN M. RILEY, Entomology and Nematology Department, IACR - Rothamsted, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2JQ.

***Sclerocona acutellus* Eversmann (Lep.: Pyralidae) in Devon**

An example of *Sclerocona acutellus* was seen by P. Butter at Exeter, on the evening of 13 June 1999, but the moth escaped after Mr Butter had realised it was "something different". Fortunately, he captured a further specimen to light that same night. The following evening, he and I, together, took a further specimen at dusk. These constitute the fourth and fifth British records and the first for Devon. All the specimens looked fresh.

The first British record of this species was at Leckford, North Hampshire on 18 August 1988 by D.H. Sterling (*Ent. Rec.***101**: 153, 226), also mentioned in *Ent. Gaz.* **40**: 1-3, *Ent. Rec.***102**: 140 and *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **5**: 8. Subsequent records are Virginia Water, Surrey, 3 June 1989 by P. Baker (*Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **7**: 35) and Henley-on-Thames, 20 June 1995 by D. Wedd (*Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **9**: 225). A colour photograph of the species may be found in *Br. J. Ent. Nat. Hist.* **3**: plate IV.—ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NR.

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## SUBSCRIBER NOTICE

**Relative frequency of the banded form of the Riband Wave *Idaea aversata* (L.)  
(Lep.: Geometridae): a request for data**

The ratio between the typical, banded form of the Riband Wave *Idaea aversata* and its plain form *remutata* varies regionally in Britain. In some areas, such as north-east Scotland, the banded form seems not to occur at all. There may also be substantial differences between sites even within the same vice-county, perhaps related to habitat. I would welcome accurate counts of the two forms from any observer who catches adequate sample sizes of this species. Please give location, vice-county and a simple description of the habitat, for instance "suburban garden" or "mature deciduous woodland".—ROY LEVERTON, Whitewells, Ordiquihill, Cornhill, Banffshire AB45 2HS.